## Jury Committee Judicial Conference of Indiana

## October 6, 2006 Minutes

- Members present. The following members of the Committee were present: Les Meade (by phone), Michael Peyton, Kenneth Scheibenberger, and William Hughes, Chair.
- 2. <u>Staff present</u>. Michelle C. Goodman and Tom Carusillo provided the Committee with staff assistance.
- 3. <u>Approval of minutes</u>. The Committee approved the minutes from August 25, 2006.
- 4. <u>Jury legislation</u>. Judge Hughes reported on his presentation on behalf of the Committee before the Conference Board of Directors in September. The Board unanimously approved the Committee's proposal and authorized the Committee to present this to the Legislature. Judge Hughes reported that he will be presenting this proposal to the Commission on Courts on October 19, 2006. Judge Hughes asked Committee member to be available during the session to help present the proposal if necessary. Judge Hughes requested staff to develop talking points for this proposal to assist Committee members during the session.
- 5. <u>Jury Pool Project</u>. Judge Hughes provided the Committee with an update on the status of the project and informed the Committee that the project team would be meeting next week to further discuss the status of processing the list. The Committee agreed that questions on this project should be responded to by staff as they arise. The Committee recommended that the project team propose to grandfather in those who have acted upon the September 30, 2006 order of the Supreme Court due to the potential fiscal impact of counties re-pulling lists.
- 6. <u>Jury Session in September</u>. Judge Hughes reported that the evaluations from the session were very positive. One hot topic that was raised was the juror privacy issues associated with juror questionnaires and pro se litigants. The Committee felt this is something that should be address in benchbook materials. Another hot topic was addressing jurors who don't show for service. Other topics included deferrals, jury plans, and disqualifications. The Committee requested staff to prepare and FAQ on dealing with elderly citizens who don't mark a disqualification, but include information which would suggest they would be disqualified. The Committee also discussed preparing information for publication on employer/employee issues with jury service (i.e. pay, etc.), orientation tape, and jurors asking questions to witness who have left court after testifying.
- 7. Other business. The Committee discussed potential future projects. Some of the projects discussed include a benchbook on jury management issues and a follow-

up study to see how jury reform is working. The Committee decided to review the list of projects we have developed and make a determination of the next project at the meeting in January.

8. <u>Meeting schedule for 2007</u>. The Committee has scheduled the following meetings for 2007:

Friday, January 12, 2007 at 10 a.m. (Indianapolis time)
Friday, April 13, 2007 at 10 a.m. (Indianapolis time)
Friday, July 13, 2007 at 10 a.m. (Indianapolis time)
Friday, October 12, 2007 at 10 a.m. (Indianapolis time)
All meetings will be held at the Judicial Center in Indianapolis.

Respectfully submitted,

Michelle C. Goodman Staff Attorney